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Letters to the Editor

PO Box 5360
Port Macquarie 2444
Email: editor.portnews@ruralpress.com
Fax: 6581 1616

330,000 every year and this is just a minimum number".

Our experience with the medical system which saw my husband Don die from "treatment" (on the revised death certificate), had him being treated by the very best of doctors and by some of the very worst.

The very best doctors carry the rest, and sadly cover up for them.

What was done to my husband was so horrific that I have spent the past three years documenting it in a book to be released in September this year which is called Without Due Care.

He had no voice after his lungs were destroyed and he was left on a ventilator for five weeks.

So, like most relatives, his family are the only voice he has as the justice system is about useless, except in very rare cases.

In Don's case no one was ever held accountable.

This is the case with most of the thousands who die unnecessarily because of overworked medical staff, careless medical staff and downright butchery by others such as Patel.

In NSW the Health Care

Complaints Commission bends over backwards to exonerate bad doctors and only when they are forced kicking and screaming will they act.

This was my experience and the experience of too many who are worn down by the complaints process.

It is this useless complaints process which enables bad doctors and medical staff to continue without correction.

Mr Patel should have been sentenced to life in prison, maybe the real justice will come for him and for all the others who have killed and injured without remorse, in the great hereafter.

Therese Mackay

Health care requires more accountability

NOW Mr Patel (hopefully no longer Dr Patel) has been convicted of killing three people and injuring one other, we in NSW await a similar outcome for Graeme Reeves, known as the Butcher of Bega.

Sadly I believe, along with many others, that these two doctors are only the tip of the iceberg.

According to the Australian Parliament, June 1995 and published by the Medical Error Action Group: "Doctors report medical mistakes kill 18,000 Australians, at least, and harm